

Individual Placement Positions

Puget Sound Corps

The Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Reserves Program seeks 6 motivated members to assist with a variety of marine nearshore monitoring, assessment and restoration projects throughout the programs seven Aquatic Reserves. These positions offer training and experience with several standard nearshore monitoring and survey techniques.

This project will aid in the implementation of baseline and trend monitoring of important habitats and species throughout the network of aquatic reserves. The monitoring projects will include trend monitoring of eelgrass using the Seagrass Net (www.seagrassnet.org) monitoring protocols, survey and identification of beaches utilized by beach spawning forage fish, water quality monitoring using Sound Citizen equipment (<https://depts.washington.edu/soundcit/>), nearshore usage monitoring, with the potential for additional monitoring as the project progresses. In addition, this project will help ensure habitat protection and restoration through the identification and removal of marine debris and creosote logs.

These positions will work as part of a small team of IPs in the Puget Sound region focusing on seven aquatic reserves; Nisqually Reach, Maury Island, Protection Island, Smith & Minor Island, Fidalgo Bay, Cypress Island and Cherry Point. The successful applicants will help with installing study plots and hardware, collecting and managing field data, maintaining field equipment, processing data in a laboratory environment, and identifying and removing small marine debris and creosote logs. Field days will be physically strenuous—hiking on Puget Sound beaches, mudflats and estuaries and will require in- and on-water work from boats. Field work is year-round and will take place in all types of weather. About 40-50% of the position will be spent in a laboratory processing field samples. This position requires regular overnight travel, often longer than 2 consecutive nights, and long periods of driving. Because you will work closely with a small group of people, curiosity, enthusiasm, and good communication skills are valuable. We are looking for individuals who are excited about science, learning, being outside and in a lab, and striking that elusive balance between commitment to doing a great job and commitment to enjoying the day.